



S/TRADEMAK OFFICE 08/881,393

PATENT

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06/01/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: FODSTAD ET AL. Examiner: C. CHIN  
Serial No.: 08/881,393 Group Art Unit: 1641  
Filed: JUNE 24, 1997 Docket No.: 7885.33USD1  
Title: METHOD FOR DETECTION OF SPECIFIC TARGET CELLS IN  
SPECIALIZED OR MIXED CELL POPULATION AND SOLUTIONS  
CONTAINING MIXED CELL POPULATIONS

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
ENTERED

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 15, 2000.

By: John J. Gresens  
Name: John J. Gresens

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed February 14, 2000, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks. Re-examination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendment and remarks below is respectfully requested.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Amended) A method for detecting and quantitating a specific living target cell in a cell suspension of a mixed cell population at a sensitivity of one target cell per 100 or more total cells, in a fluid system containing a mixed cell population, or in a single cell suspension prepared from a solid tissue, with the exception of normal and malignant hematopoietic cells in blood and bone marrow, the method comprising the steps of:

a. coating paramagnetic particles or beads with an antibody or antibody fragment directed against a membrane structure specifically expressed on the target-cell and not on a non-target-cell in the cell mixture;

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